Musical Disagreement

by

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INT. REHEARSAL ROOM - DAY

Here is a small room featuring a drum kit, guitars on stands, a microphone, amplifiers with leads, and a desk with a CD player on it, along with a tiny speaker. ADAM (30) has a bandanna on his forehead and LOUIS SLICE (30) wears sunglasses, has long, black hair and has a French accent. Both stand facing each other.

ADAM
Hey Louis, it's so good to see you! I've just been told that our latest album has sold more than 10 million copies in America, alone!

LOUIS
No way...

ADAM
It's a team effort. Look, we need to stay on top of our game, so I've been thinking our band needs to do something new... Explore a new direction...

LOUIS
Ok...

ADAM
I want you to check this song out...

ADAM presses a button on the CD player.

SONG
I went to France and hated everyone I saw there. God I hate French people. They're stupid, too. They say frogs legs taste of chicken, but chicken tastes of chicken and you get more of it! Frogs legs are tiny, so why bother? And don't get me started on snails, what the hell is wrong with..

ADAM presses the button again, pausing the song. He smiles confidently.

LOUIS
You do know I'm French, don't you? I mean you must do, I have a very thick French accent... You've known me for years, I keep talking about my French family...

ADAM
Look, forget that, I want you to play a sick guitar solo after the chorus!

LOUIS
Adam, I have to be honest...

ADAM
Yes?

LOUIS
This is kinda violating me...

ADAM
Because you’re French?

LOUIS
Yes. And not only that, the song isn’t even catchy, it’s just you rambling about how much you hate my country... I like it! The Eiffel Tower is good!

ADAM looks down.

ADAM
Louis, our band Bazookas and Tulips are getting bigger every day. Judging by what you just said, it seems like you’re thinking of quiting...

LOUIS
Well, there is a funny atmosphere in this room right now...

ADAM
The atmosphere is excitement!

LOUIS
I’m scared.

ADAM
I stopped the song too soon, I didn’t show you the good bit...

He presses the button again whilst giving a reassuring and hopeful smile.

SONG
... (expletive) French people. So yeah, if I ever see a French person again, I don’t know what will happen. I’d just be so mad because I really, really hate French people.
(MORE)

SONG (cont'd)
(expletive) French people can go and (expletive) off, what the (expletive) is wrong with you all you (expletive)...

ADAM stops the song again.

LOUIS
This is really hateful...

ADAM
I’m sure it will grow on you and don’t worry, for the radio version we can edit the swear words out. For now, how about you pick up your guitar and we jam?

In a daze, LOUIS picks up a guitar, plugs it in a turns an amp on. He plays a rock chord progression. ADAM walks to the microphone and sings sweetly.

ADAM
Louis, please go away because you’re French... et stupide...

EXT. OPEN AIR CONCERT - DAY

ADAM is on a huge stage, standing behind a microphone. LOUIS stands by his side, wearing a guitar and a BASSIST is by him. Behind everyone is a DRUMMER behind a kit and behind him is a wall of amplifiers. No MUSICIANS are performing. Massive French flags are on poles on both sides of the stage. The MUSICIANS face a crowd of several thousand FANS, all standing in the open air. It’s a sunny day.

ADAM
Hello, Florida! Give me a cheer if you hate (expletive) French people!

The CROWD go wild. A tear falls from LOUIS’S eye.

ADAM
This song is about wanting to punch everyone in the stupid country and Louis here is about to shred on it!

LOUIS plays a power chord and the CROWD cheer again.

ADAM
That was a killer power chord from Louis Slice!

The AUDIENCE chant ‘Slice, Slice’ over and over again.

ADAM
You may not know this, but Louis here was considering calling himself ‘Slash’ but I pointed out how that means to take a pee!

LOUIS plays a blues rock guitar lick.

ADAM
Anyway, about France. If any of you here visit the country - God knows why - I want you to throw a brick through someone’s window and slash someone’s tyres!

ADAM walks to a flag, pulls out a lighter and sets it on fire.

LOUIS
NO, I AM SICK OF THIS!

ADAM
Oh an angry Frenchman, who knew? They are also all evil.

LOUIS slams his guitar down and storms off stage. A riot breaks out. ADAM flies headfirst into the CROWD and starts punching everyone around him. The BASSIST looks confused and plays a funky bass line. The DRUMMER joins him.